

Claims

We claim:

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1. A bed frame comprising side rails having ends, cross members affixed at junction points to said side rails intermediate said ends, said bed frame having leg assemblies extending downwardly from said junction points of said cross members and said side rails, protective shields affixed to said bed frame and adapted to enclose the ends of said side rails and said junction points of said side rails and said cross members to cover sharp ends at said locations.

2. A bed frame as defined in claim 1 wherein said protective shields comprise at least first and second housings joined together by a living hinge, at least two of said first and second housings having free ends, said protective shields having means to affix said free ends together to affix said protective shields to said bed frame.

3. ~~A bed frame as defined in claim 1 wherein said protective shields comprise molded plastic housings.~~

4. ~~A bed frame as defined in claim 1 wherein said protective shields comprise at least first and second housings have formed peripheral surfaces that are joined together by means of a snap fit.~~

5. ~~A bed frame as defined in claim 2 wherein one of said free ends of one of said at least first and second housings has a tab extending therefrom and said other free end of said other housing has apertures adapted to receive said tabs to affix said free ends together.~~

6. ~~A protective shield to enclose and contain sharp edges of a bed frame member, said shield comprising first and second housings, said first and second housings~~

joined together by means of a hinge and having free ends, said first and second housings have a securing means at said free ends thereof, said housings adapted to be affixed about said sharp edges of said bed frame member to enclose and contain the sharp edges. }

7. A protective shield as defined in claim 6 wherein said hinge is a living hinge.

8. A protective shield as defined in claim 6 wherein said shield is adapted to be affixed to said bed frame member when said free ends are affixed together.

9. A protective shield as defined in claim 8 wherein said bed frame member comprises a leg assembly.

10. A protective shield as defined in claim 8 wherein said bed frame member comprises at least one side rail.

11. A protective shield to enclose and contain a sharp edge or corner at at least one location about a bed frame comprising side rails having ends, and cross members joined to said side rails and having legs extending downward from the junction of said cross members and said side rails, said protective shield comprising at least first and second housings, said first and second housings joined together by means of a hinge and having free ends, said first and second housings have a securing means at said free ends thereof, said housings adapted to be affixed about said at least one location of said bed frame member to enclose and contain the sharp edges or corners.

12. A protective shield as defined in claim 11 wherein said hinge is a living hinge.

13. A protective shield as defined in claim 11 wherein said at least one location comprises enclosing and containing said legs.

14. A protective shield as defined in claim 11 wherein said at least one location comprises enclosing and containing said junctions of a cross member and a side rail.

15. A protective shield as defined in claim 11 wherein said at least one location comprises said side rails.

16. A protective shield as defined in 11 wherein said at least one location comprises said ends of said side rails, said junctions of said cross members and said side rails, said legs and said side rails.

(17.) A method of protecting locations of a bed frame having sharp edges, said method comprising:

providing a pair of molded plastic housings joined together by a living hinge and having free ends,

positioning the housings so as to enclose the sharp edges of the bed frame within the molded plastic housings,

closing the molded plastic housings together to enclose and contain the sharp edges, and

attaching the free ends together to retain the molded plastic housings to the bed frame.

18. In a bed frame construction having side rails and cross members affixed to said side rails and positioned between said side rails, and leg assemblies located adjacent said junctures of said side rails and said cross members, the improvement comprising a protective shield comprising a plurality of molded plastic housings affixed to said bed frame to enclose said ends of said side rails, said junctures of said side rails and said cross members.

19. ~~In a bed frame construction as defined in claim 18 wherein the improvement further comprises molded plastic housings adapted to be joined together to enclose substantially the entire length of said side rails.~~

20. ~~In a bed frame construction as defined in claim 18 wherein the improvement further comprises said plurality of plastic housings joined together by a hinge.~~

21. In a bed frame construction as defined in claim 20 wherein the improvement further comprises said hinge is a living hinge.

22. ~~In a bed frame construction as defined in claim 20 wherein the improvement further comprises said plurality of plastic housings have free ends including means to affix said free ends together.~~

1.24 23. <sup>24</sup> In a bed frame construction as defined in claim 19 wherein said molded plastic housings have interlocking peripheral edges adapted to be snapped together to join said housing together.

1.24 24. A permanent mounted shield for a bed frame, said shield having indicia permanently placed on said shield indicating the source of the bed including a web site and a telephone number.

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